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Medical implants made of structural elements

BACKGROUND AND SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

DESCRIPTION

This invention concerns plastic implants for medical purposes and in particular implants composed of thin foldable structural elements.

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The desired tissue-like elastic properties of the implant of the present invention are essentially achieved by the ability to displace adjacent layers of the thin foldable structural elements, the sliding effect being mediated and facilitated by a suitable lubricant.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE FIGURES

Fig. 1 shows a single spaghetti-like strand of an implant of the invention (10)

Fig. 2 shows a plurality of spaghetti-like strands (10, 10a) forming an implant, the strands being slidable against one another as shown by the arrows and described herein;

The structural elements of the present invention can either be introduced without an outer covering directly into a pre-formed implant pocket in the tissue or, like conventional implants, they can be surrounded by an outer covering in which case the gels of conventional implants are replaced by structural elements of the present invention.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION